

Section 2

HIV Infection in Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Clinic Clients

People at risk for STDs are also at risk for HIV infection. This association is evident in both unlinked HIV prevalence studies and voluntary HIV antibody testing of STD clinic clients.

Unlinked HIV Seroprevalence Studies

From 1995 through 1999, three STD clinics outside of New York City continuously participated in unlinked prevalence studies. The studies utilized leftover specimens from routine syphilis serologies to blindly test for HIV antibodies. HIV prevalence rates varied by sex, race/ethnicity, age and risk behavior (see Figures 2-1 and 2-2). Those most likely to test positive were black and Hispanic clients, clients over 30, clients with reactive syphilis serologies, clients indicating injecting drug use, males indicating that they have had sex with men, and clients who had a sex partner at risk for HIV. Overall, the last five years has shown the trend in HIV

prevalence to remain steady, with over 1 percent of clients being HIV positive. Hispanic males showed a large decline, from a high of 2.86 percent positive in 1996, to 1.2 percent positive in 1999 (see Figure 2-3). Since 1996, females have shown increased HIV prevalence. Hispanic females have shown an increase in HIV prevalence, from having no positives in 1995 to an HIV positivity of 2.63% positive in 1999. Rates also continue to rise in females 40-59 years of age. Black females have increased from 1.07 percent in 1996 to 1.86 percent in 1999 (see Figure 2-4).

Voluntary Counseling and Testing

Utilization of HIV counseling and voluntary testing in New York State STD clinics has remained high; 22,152 clients were tested in 1999. Of those tested in 1999, 59 percent were male and 90 percent opted for confidential testing.

HIV positivity varied by region, with the highest rates seen in the Metro New York Region (geographic distribution based on the location of clinic). During 1999, 0.8 percent of those tested from the Metro New York region were HIV positive. The lowest rates were found in the Buffalo and Rochester regions, where 0.3 percent tested HIV positive; 0.6 percent of those tested in the Albany and Syracuse regions were HIV positive (see Figure 2-5). In recent years HIV positivity has not varied much by gender. In 1999, 0.5 percent of males and 0.4 percent of females tested HIV positive. The rate of HIV positivity in males has declined, from 0.8 percent positive in 1995/1996 to 0.5 percent positive in 1999. The rate of HIV positivity in females has remained relatively stable since 1995 at about 0.5 percent positive (see Figure 2-5).

Figure 2-1

Unlinked Serosurvey of STD Clients

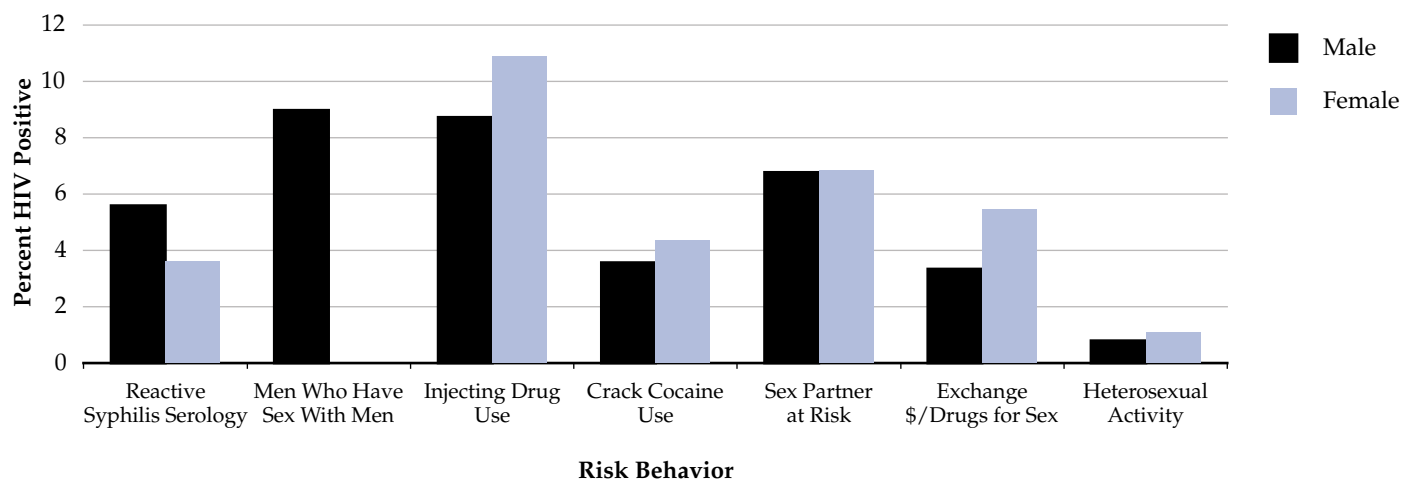
HIV Prevalence in

Three Continuously Participating Clinics Outside New York City

All STD Clients, 1995 - 1999

Risk Behaviors*	Male			Female			Total		
	Number Positive	Number Tested	Percent Positive	Number Positive	Number Tested	Percent Positive	Number Positive	Number Tested	Percent Positive
Reactive Syphilis Serology	13	232	5.60	7	195	3.59	20	429	4.66
Men Who Have Sex With Men	73	813	8.98	—	—	—	73	813	8.98
Injecting Drug Use	38	436	8.72	33	303	10.89	71	742	9.57
Crack Cocaine Use	57	1,595	3.57	61	1,402	4.35	118	3,007	3.92
Sex Partner at Risk	18	266	6.77	22	321	6.85	40	587	6.81
Exchange \$/Drugs for Sex	30	900	3.33	51	935	5.45	81	1,839	4.40
Heterosexual Activity	149	18,534	0.80	110	10,054	1.09	261	28,695	0.91

Figure 2-1



* Self-reported risk behavior. Behaviors are not mutually exclusive and are non-hierarchical.

Figure 2-2

Unlinked Serosurvey of STD Clients

HIV Prevalence in

Three Continuously Participating Clinics Outside New York City

All STD Clients, 1995 - 1999

Gender		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Total
Male	Number Positive	39	62	35	50	37	233
	Number Tested	3,051	4,110	4,146	4,050	4,064	19,421
	Percent HIV Positive	1.28	1.51	0.84	1.23	0.91	1.15
Female	Number Positive	17	17	20	27	31	112
	Number Tested	1,470	2,093	2,252	2,224	2,286	10,325
	Percent HIV Positive	1.16	0.81	0.89	1.21	1.36	1.08
Total Number Positive		57	80	55	77	68	337
Total Tested		4,564	6,219	6,413	6,289	6,369	29,854
Total Percent HIV Positive		1.25	1.29	0.86	1.22	1.07	1.13
Race/Ethnicity		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Total
White, non-Hispanic	Number Positive	15	20	12	21	8	76
	Number Tested	1,664	2,269	2,286	2,232	2,148	10,599
	Percent HIV Positive	0.90	0.88	0.52	0.94	0.37	0.72
Black, non-Hispanic	Number Positive	40	52	37	52	49	230
	Number Tested	2,586	3,491	3,602	3,471	3,517	16,667
	Percent HIV Positive	1.55	1.49	1.03	1.50	1.39	1.38
Hispanic	Number Positive	2	8	5	4	9	28
	Number Tested	237	363	423	450	529	2,002
	Percent HIV Positive	0.84	2.20	1.18	0.89	1.70	1.40
Other/Unknown	Number Positive	0	0	1	0	2	3
	Number Tested	77	96	102	136	175	586
	Percent HIV Positive	0.00	0.00	0.98	0.00	1.14	0.51
Age		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Total
10-19	Number Positive	2	2	0	1	2	7
	Number Tested	774	1,007	965	1,000	1,119	4,865
	Percent HIV Positive	0.26	0.20	0.00	0.10	0.18	0.14
20-29	Number Positive	16	15	14	20	18	83
	Number Tested	2,117	2,914	2,868	2,780	2,790	13,469
	Percent HIV Positive	0.76	0.51	0.49	0.72	0.65	0.62
30-39	Number Positive	25	41	28	34	26	154
	Number Tested	1,079	1,471	1,605	1,536	1,455	7,146
	Percent HIV Positive	2.32	2.79	1.74	2.21	1.79	2.16
40-59	Number Positive	13	20	12	20	21	86
	Number Tested	529	741	892	884	913	3,959
	Percent HIV Positive	2.46	2.70	1.35	2.26	2.30	2.17
Other/Unknown	Number Positive	1	2	1	2	1	7
	Number Tested	65	86	83	89	92	415
	Percent HIV Positive	1.54	2.33	1.20	2.25	1.09	1.69

Figure 2-2

Unlinked Serosurvey of STD Clients, HIV Prevalence in Three Continuously Participating Clinics Outside New York City, All STD Clients, 1995 - 1999 (continued)

Figure 2-2a Gender

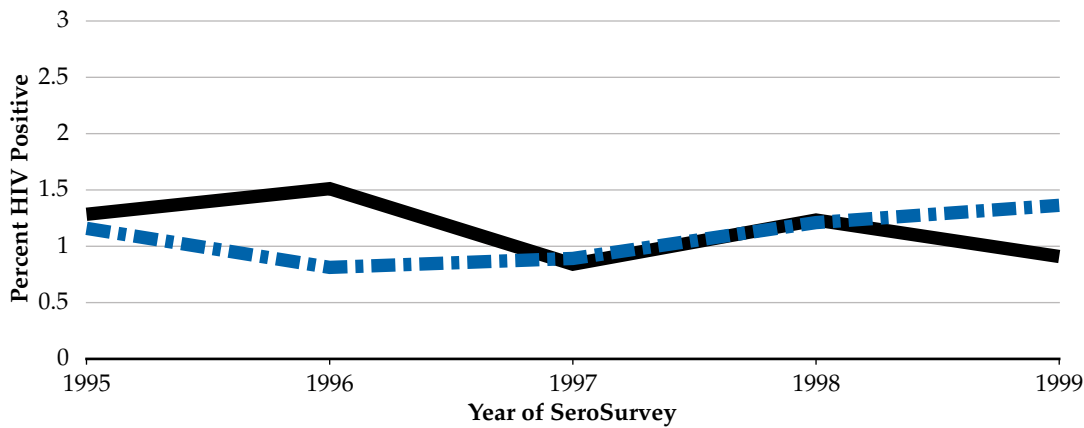


Figure 2-2b Race/Ethnicity

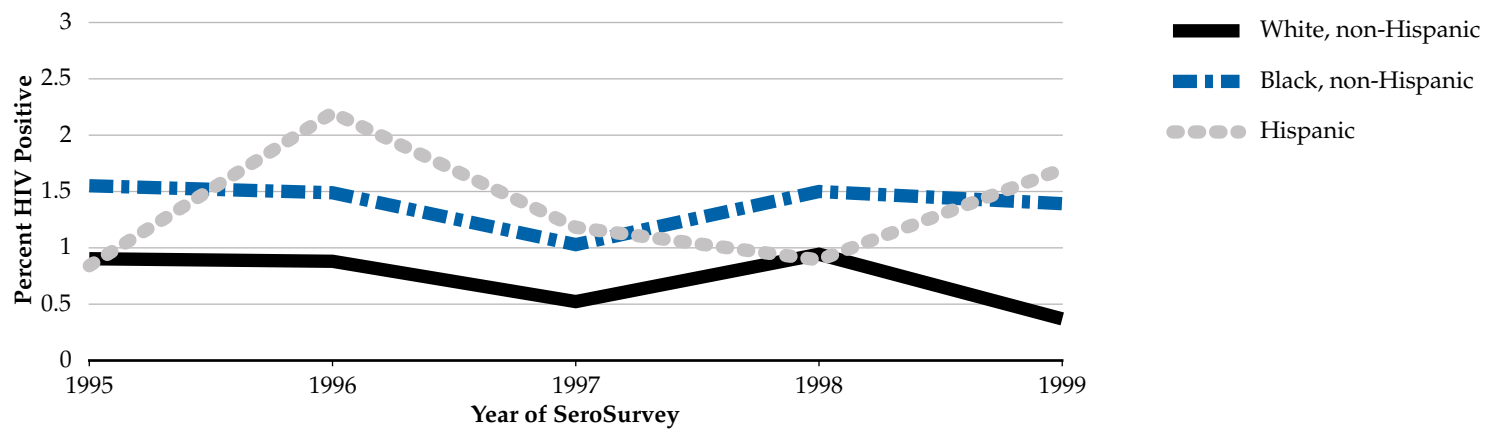


Figure 2-2c Age

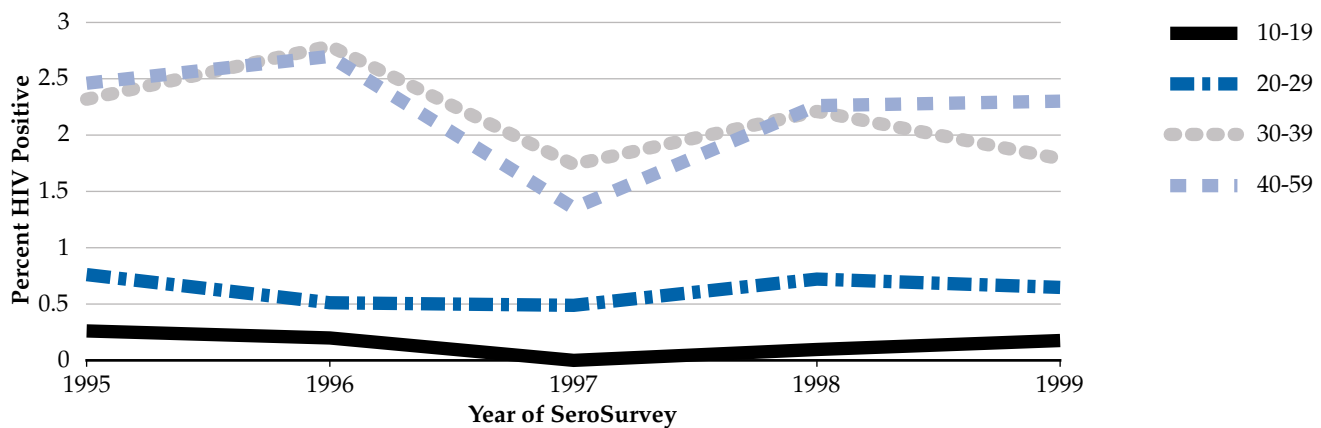


Figure 2-3

Unlinked Serosurvey of STD Clients

HIV Prevalence in

Three Continuously Participating Clinics Outside New York City

Male STD Clients, 1995 - 1999

Race/Ethnicity		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Total
White, non-Hispanic	Number Positive	11	16	11	15	5	58
	Number Tested	1,071	1,436	1,444	1,438	1,358	6,747
	Percent HIV Positive	1.03	1.11	0.76	1.04	0.37	0.86
Black, non-Hispanic	Number Positive	26	39	20	33	26	144
	Number Tested	1,761	2,365	2,370	2,243	2,270	11,009
	Percent HIV Positive	1.48	1.65	0.84	1.47	1.15	1.31
Hispanic	Number Positive	2	7	3	2	4	18
	Number Tested	168	245	273	292	337	1,315
	Percent HIV Positive	1.19	2.86	1.10	0.68	1.19	1.37
Other/Unknown	Number Positive	0	0	1	0	2	3
	Number Tested	51	64	59	77	99	350
	Percent HIV Positive	0.00	0.00	1.69	0.00	2.02	0.86
Total Number Positive		39	62	35	50	37	223
Total Tested		3,051	4,110	4,146	4,050	4,064	19,421
Total Percent HIV Positive		1.28	1.51	0.84	1.23	0.91	1.15

Age		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Total
10-19	Number Positive	0	1	0	1	1	3
	Number Tested	358	481	455	466	551	2,311
	Percent HIV Positive	0.00	0.21	0.00	0.21	0.18	0.13
20-29	Number Positive	9	8	7	9	10	43
	Number Tested	1,475	1,997	1,931	1,860	1,856	9,119
	Percent HIV Positive	0.61	0.40	0.36	0.48	0.54	0.47
30-39	Number Positive	17	31	18	26	16	108
	Number Tested	751	986	1,043	1,006	954	4,740
	Percent HIV Positive	2.26	3.14	1.73	2.58	1.68	2.28
40-59	Number Positive	12	20	9	13	10	64
	Number Tested	411	570	650	648	636	2,915
	Percent HIV Positive	2.92	3.51	1.38	2.01	1.57	2.20
Other/Unknown	Number Positive	1	2	1	1	0	5
	Number Tested	56	76	67	70	67	336
	Percent HIV Positive	1.79	2.63	1.49	1.43	0.00	1.49
Total Number Positive		39	62	35	50	37	223
Total Tested		3,051	4,110	4,146	4,050	4,064	19,421
Total Percent HIV Positive		1.28	1.51	0.84	1.23	0.91	1.15

Figure 2-3

Unlinked Serosurvey of STD Clients, HIV Prevalence in Three Continuously Participating Clinics Outside New York City, Male STD Clients, 1995 - 1999 (continued)

Figure 2-3a Race/Ethnicity

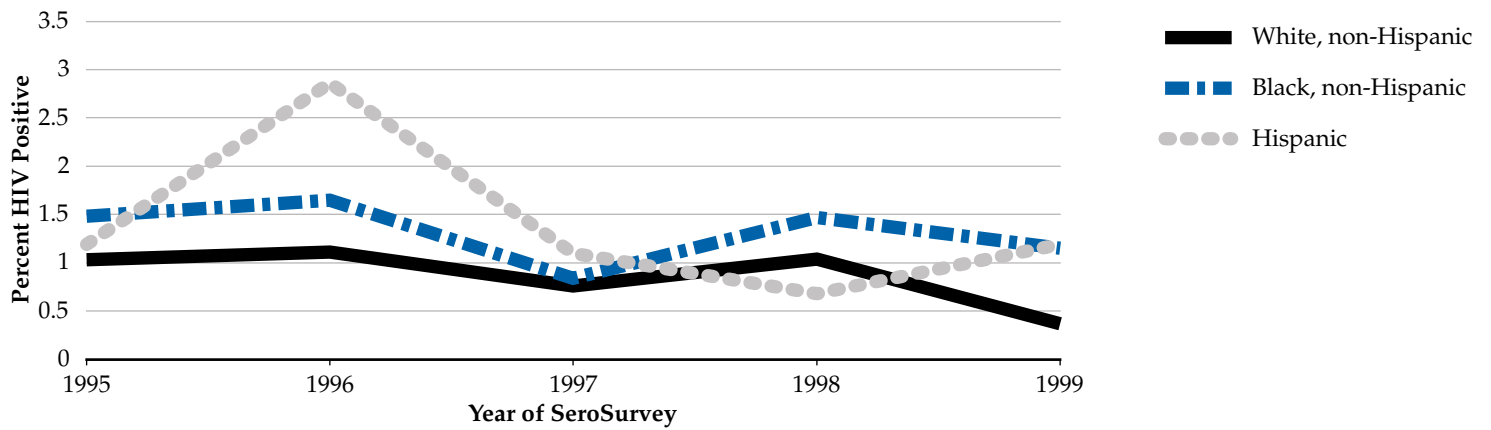


Figure 2-3b Age

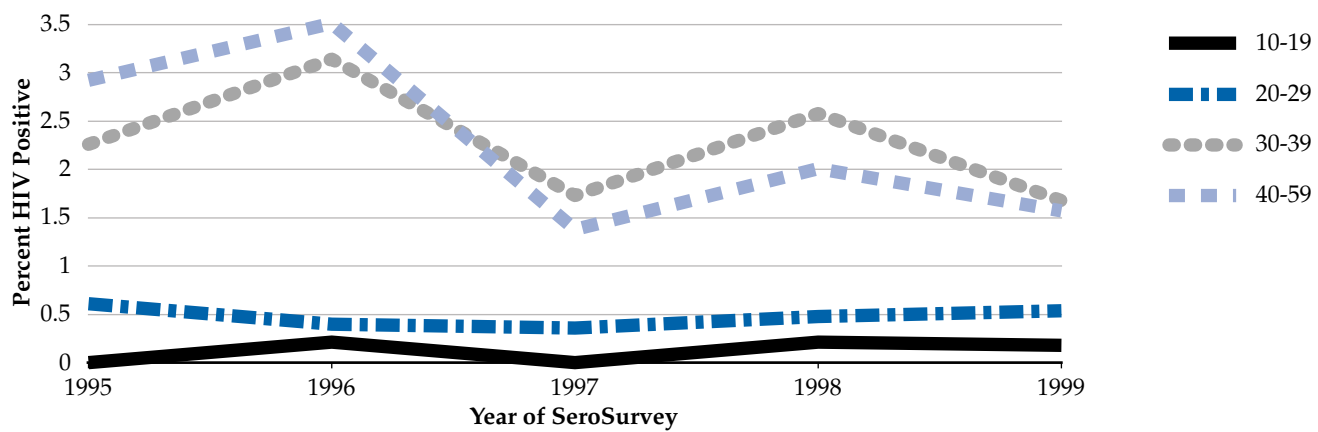


Figure 2-4

Unlinked Serosurvey of STD Clients

HIV Prevalence in

Three Continuously Participating Clinics Outside New York City

Female STD Clients, 1995 - 1999

Race/Ethnicity		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Total
White, non-Hispanic	Number Positive	3	4	1	6	3	17
	Number Tested	586	824	836	792	786	3,824
	Percent HIV Positive	0.51	0.49	0.12	0.76	0.38	0.44
Black, non-Hispanic	Number Positive	14	12	17	19	23	85
	Number Tested	794	1,119	1,223	1,219	1,236	5,591
	Percent HIV Positive	1.76	1.07	1.39	1.56	1.86	1.52
Hispanic	Number Positive	0	1	2	2	5	10
	Number Tested	67	118	150	156	190	681
	Percent HIV Positive	0.00	0.85	1.33	1.28	2.63	1.47
Other/Unknown	Number Positive	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Number Tested	23	32	43	57	74	229
	Percent HIV Positive	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Number Positive		17	17	20	27	31	112
Total Tested		1,470	2,093	2,252	2,224	2,286	10,325
Total Percent HIV Positive		1.16	0.81	0.89	1.21	1.36	1.08

Age		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Total
10-19	Number Positive	2	1	0	0	1	4
	Number Tested	412	525	509	531	565	2,542
	Percent HIV Positive	0.49	0.19	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.16
20-29	Number Positive	7	6	7	11	8	39
	Number Tested	622	908	928	913	930	4,301
	Percent HIV Positive	1.13	0.66	0.75	1.20	0.86	0.91
30-39	Number Positive	7	10	10	8	10	45
	Number Tested	317	483	560	528	498	2,386
	Percent HIV Positive	2.21	2.07	1.79	1.52	2.01	1.89
40-59	Number Positive	1	0	3	7	11	22
	Number Tested	112	169	242	235	274	1,032
	Percent HIV Positive	0.89	0.00	1.24	2.98	4.01	2.13
Other/Unknown	Number Positive	0	0	0	1	1	2
	Number Tested	7	8	13	17	19	64
	Percent HIV Positive	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.88	5.26	3.13
Total Number Positive		17	17	20	27	31	112
Total Tested		1,470	2,093	2,252	2,224	2,286	10,325
Total Percent HIV Positive		1.16	0.81	0.89	1.21	1.36	1.08

Figure 2-4

Unlinked Serosurvey of STD Clients, HIV Prevalence in Three Continuously Participating Clinics Outside New York City, Female STD Clients, 1995 - 1999 (continued)

Figure 2-4a Race/Ethnicity

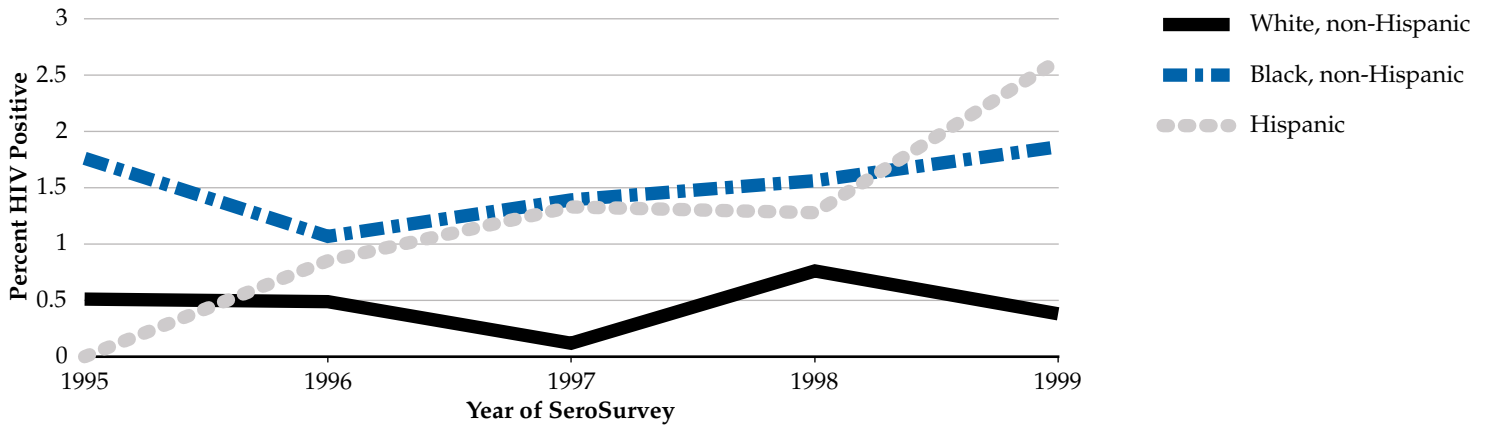


Figure 2-4b Age

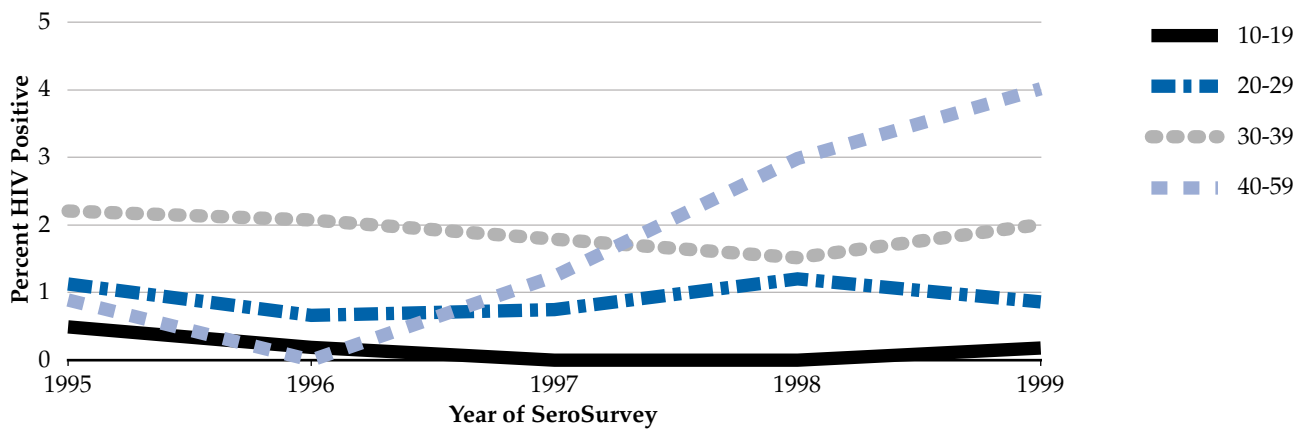


Figure 2-5

STD Clinic Clients Who Seek HIV Testing HIV Positivity by Public Health Region* and Gender

1995 - 1999

Year of Test	Number Tested and Percent Positive	Region				
		Albany	Buffalo	Rochester	Syracuse	Metro New York
1995	Confidential Tested	2,106	4,659	6,092	4,351	3,128
	Anonymous Tested	1,642	260	1,270	525	613
	Percent HIV Positive	1.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.0
1996	Confidential Tested	2,249	4,301	7,018	3,855	2,053
	Anonymous Tested	1,632	258	425	1,077	702
	Percent HIV Positive	1.0	0.4	0.5	1.0	1.0
1997	Confidential Tested	2,013	4,460	8,075	3,551	1,950
	Anonymous Tested	1,284	235	292	332	749
	Percent HIV Positive	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.9
1998	Confidential Tested	1,960	3,141	8,287	3,661	1,785
	Anonymous Tested	1,003	139	429	395	822
	Percent HIV Positive	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3	1.0
1999	Confidential Tested	1,966	3,296	9,074	3,648	1,855
	Anonymous Tested	731	358	380	174	670
	Percent HIV Positive	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.8

Year of Test	Number Tested and Percent Positive	Gender		
		Male	Female	Total
1995	Confidential Tested	12,309	8,027	20,336
	Anonymous Tested	2,318	1,992	4,310
	Percent HIV Positive	0.8	0.5	0.7
1996	Confidential Tested	11,543	7,933	19,476
	Anonymous Tested	2,265	1,829	4,094
	Percent HIV Positive	0.8	0.4	0.7
1997	Confidential Tested	11,959	8,090	20,049
	Anonymous Tested	1,595	1,297	2,892
	Percent HIV Positive	0.7	0.6	0.6
1998	Confidential Tested	11,656	7,178	18,834
	Anonymous Tested	1,411	1,377	2,788
	Percent HIV Positive	0.5	0.5	0.5
1999	Confidential Tested	11,788	8,051	19,839
	Anonymous Tested	1,255	1,058	2,313
	Percent HIV Positive	0.5	0.4	0.4

*Geographic distribution based on location of clinic.

Figure 2-5

STD Clinic Clients Who Seek HIV Testing HIV Positivity by Public Health Region and Gender, 1995 - 1999 (continued)

